

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	Confirmation No.: 8436
ALBERT H.F. DE HEER, et al.)	Group Art Unit: 2163
Serial No. 09/626,347)	Examiner: Patrick A. Darno
Filed: July 26, 2000)	
For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR)	Date: May 6, 2008
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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111 and 1.114

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Reply is submitted after appeal proceedings were instituted by a Notice of Appeal filed January 8, 2008 and is in response to the Office Action mailed August 8, 2007 in connection with the above-identified patent application. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) are submitted herewith. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the IDS and Remarks are respectfully requested.

Listing of Claims for the Examiner's convenience begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.